

WIPP Quick Facts (As of 10-31-07)

6,213

Shipments received since opening

51,604

Cubic meters of waste disposed

94,919

Containers disposed in the underground

Daylight Savings Time ends



Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 4. Turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night to make sure you are on schedule in the morning!

WIPP Road Show travels through southern states



First responders and others turned out to learn about the CNS 10-160B in Monroe, Louisiana.

Five states, five days and 1,100 miles. A WIPP Road Show recently took a swing through Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia to familiarize first responders, state officials and the public with the CNS 10-160B shipping container.

The team consisted of Bill Mackie from CBFO, Bobby St. John from WTS Communication, and two Tri-State Motor Transit drivers, Tommy Cash and Emmitt Lamon. Reinforcing the team's verbal message was the large CNS 10-160B.

Beginning in Arlington, Texas, the road show followed Interstate 20 and made two stops in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. States arranged for suitable locations to conduct the show. At each stop, a brief presentation was given regarding the container and WIPP transportation requirements. Attendees were then invited to get a closer look at the vehicle, talk to the drivers and ask questions. Additionally, members of the local media attended many of shows.



Bill Mackie provides an overview in Jackson, Mississippi.

"In person and through the media, we were able to share information with a lot of people in a relatively short period of time," said Mackie.

The CNS 10-160B will eventually be used to ship remote-handled TRU (RH-TRU) waste to WIPP. The waste these shipments will transport to WIPP is no different than that shipped in the more familiar RH-72B shipping container, but the CNS 10-160B can carry more waste drums.

Shipments made in the CNS 10-160B will require additional permitting due to their weight. The road show unit weighed over 95,000 pounds.

"We're not seeking any special exemptions for these shipments," added Mackie, "We will obtain all the required permits and follow the regulations enforced by each state for such a shipment."

Shipments using the CNS 10-160B are expected to begin late this year from the Savannah River Site.

Photos courtesy of Emmitt Lamon, Tri-State Motor Transit.

Lloyd Piper retires from DOE

Bryan-College Station, Texas. Where else would a loyal Texas A&M former student retire? For a true Texas Aggie there is no other place and so it's not surprising that CBFO Deputy Manager Lloyd Piper is headed that way. But the move isn't based primarily on Aggie pride. Piper has even more important reasons to relocate to the area, it's centrally located to family.

"We have close family in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston and Victoria," he says. "My grandkids are in the Dallas area."

In addition to spending time with family and getting settled, Piper is looking forward to the activities that come along with living in a university town, specifically athletic events and big-name entertainers. More travel for Piper and his wife, Melonie, is also likely. But at the moment, his focus is on finishing up the work he has been doing for the last four years.



Lloyd Piper was named WIPP's first-ever mine rescue team honorary lifetime member.

Surrounded by boxes in his Skeen-Whitlock Building office, Piper reflected on his time at WIPP.

"WIPP is a great project," he said. "I've really enjoyed working with all the WIPP participants."

A lot has changed in the time he has served as deputy manager. Piper is glad to have contributed to the project's success, especially the ramp up of contact-handled waste shipments and the start and ramp up of remote-handled shipments. But in the end it's the people that he'll miss.

"It's really the people," he says. "I'll be leaving a lot of good friends."

Piper is appreciative of the many nice comments people have made since the news of his retirement broke. But there was one honor bestowed upon him that was completely unexpected.

At a going-away luncheon, WIPP's mine rescue trainer, Buddy Webb, presented Piper with an award of appreciation and a certificate for his support of the mine rescue teams. The certificate designated him as a "WIPP Mine Rescue Honorary Lifetime Member."

"Lloyd has been a good friend to the mine rescue teams," said Webb. "It has been a pleasure for him to go along with us to the competitions and we're really going to miss him."

WIPP has had mine rescue teams since 1985 and Webb says that this is the first time anyone has been designated as an honorary lifetime member.

"That was a real surprise!" Piper exclaimed.

Aggies don't like to say goodbye, so instead we'll stick with Aggie tradition ...
"Gig 'em, Lloyd!"

Paint the Project Pink was Perfect



To focus attention on Breast Cancer Awareness Month, volunteers launched the Paint the Project Pink campaign at the site. Related to the Paint the Town Pink campaigns held in communities across the country, pink was the color of the day for streamers, balloons, fingernails and clothing.

Congratulations to all the volunteers for their efforts to raise awareness and save lives!

Do you have an escape plan?

Know your escape route. That's one of the most important things you can do to make sure you and your family survive a fire. There are steps you can take to make sure you are safe no matter where you are.



Check your smoke detectors

Did you know that death rates in home fires with at least one smoke detector is 45 percent lower than those without smoke detectors? Of course, detectors only save lives if they are functioning properly. Be sure to replace batteries every six months or as needed. Also, be sure to test the unit using the test button regularly.

At work

Have you reviewed the evacuation plan for your work area lately? The plans are in every WIPP building and they show escape routes in the event of an evacuation. There are multiple escape routes, so be sure to familiarize yourself with all of them in case one is blocked by fire.

If you discover a fire at WIPP, warn others and then immediately contact the Central Monitoring Room (CMR) from a safe location. If you are at one of WIPP's in-town facilities, warn others, call 9-1-1 from a safe location, and then follow-up as soon as possible with a call to the CMR.

On travel

On an airplane, be sure to make note of the emergency exits. Safety briefings by airline crews are often presented in a humorous manner, but that's primarily to make sure you listen. Know how to disembark in an emergency.

In a hotel, know where the stairs are in relation to your room. Remember never to use elevators if there is a fire in the building. If you are physically unable to walk down stairs to evacuate for a fire, request a room on the first floor or as close to ground level as possible.

At home

Know your escape route from each room. This is especially important if you have young children in the home. The National Fire Protection Association is sponsoring "The Great American Fire Drill." According to their Web site, here's how to get started:

- ⌘ Pick a date
- ⌘ [Make your plan](#) (PDF, 634 KB)
- ⌘ Practice your escape drill

Celebrating National Quality Assurance Month



In recognition of National Quality Assurance Month, Quality Assurance staff passed out car safety kits. Pictured left to right: Cathy Nesser, Bruce Faulk, Jessica Mireles, Val Cannon, Bill Allen and CBFO Manager Dave Moody.

WIPP employees among volunteers helping recovering soldiers

Bob Walker (L&M) believes in supporting our troops. Not only does he believe it, but he acts on it. Walker and his wife Mak (WTS) were among 30 members of the Carlsbad chapter of the American Legion Riders that recently rode to Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas on 23 motorcycles and in two vehicles to deliver much needed supplies to soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.



"These troops have stood in harms way for us," says Walker. "The least we can do is make sure they have basic needs met while they are recovering."

The group, along with other chapters from New Mexico, delivered \$14,000 in spending cards for use in the commissary and about \$30,000 in boxed items, such as toothbrushes, underwear and other basic hygiene products.

The project isn't a one-time event either. Walker says that donations are continually accepted and that he expects to make several trips a year to San Antonio.

"As long as our troops need our help, we'll keep doing it," he says.

Prevent super-bug infections

There has been growing concern in recent news reports about the death of a Virginia high school student due to a Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) bacterial infection and outbreaks among high school students in Virginia and Maryland. MRSA is a type of bacteria that is resistant to nearly all antibiotics, and is known as the "super-bug." There are more than 84,000 MRSA infections in the United States each year, but the majority (85 percent) of infections are related to hospital settings.

MRSA is common and relatively harmless when in the nose or on the skin. The infection may look like a pimple or boil and may heal on its own. But when the bacterial infection becomes more than skin deep, it can be deadly and difficult to stop with current antibiotics.

This super-bug can live for weeks and can be spread by sharing contaminated towels, gym equipment, and any shared personal possessions, such as computer keyboards. Good personal hygiene and soap and water are the best preventive measures to stop the spread of these bacteria.

To reduce the transmission of these bacteria:

- ⌘ Wash hands frequently using soap or a hand sanitizer (hand gel);

Interested in WIPP?

If you would like to be notified when TRU TeamWorks is updated with the latest information about WIPP, send an e-mail message to TRUTeamWorks@wipp.ws.

- ⌘ Do not share towels (use paper hand towels);
- ⌘ Do not share personal items like razors, or nail clippers, or soap;
- ⌘ Regularly clean commonly touched surfaces, such as telephones, doorknobs, and light switches with disinfectants
- ⌘ Protect skin abrasions from infection by washing with soap and water, and then dry and cover with a clean bandage; and
- ⌘ At the gym, protect legs and arms from abrasions by wearing appropriate clothing to cover the areas.

For additional information, contact Dr. Bonnie S. Richter, Director, Illness and Injury Prevention Programs, Office of Health, Safety and Security, at bonnie.richter@hq.doe.gov or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa.html.

The U.S. Department of Energy
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Please send comments and/or
suggestions to: [TRU TeamWorks](#)

